



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES**

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
FOR
ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES (APS)
EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM SERVICES
IFB No: APS-ES-01**

February 2014

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APS EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM SERVICES**

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1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Purpose

The County of Los Angeles, Department of Community and Senior Services (County) is in the process of identifying qualified Bidder(s) who are interested in collaborating with County in providing State-mandated Adult Protective Services (APS) Emergency Shelter Program (Program) services for elderly individuals and eligible dependent adults ("Clients" or "Emergency Shelter Clients"), in Los Angeles County. APS is a 24-hour social service program mandated by the State of California that protects the health and welfare of elderly individuals and eligible dependent adults who are victims of actual or potential abuse, neglect, or exploitation. This mistreatment may be caused by others or self-inflicted.

County administers the County of Los Angeles APS Emergency Shelter Program. This Invitation for Bids (IFB) invites State of California-licensed Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCF-Es), referred herein as "Emergency Shelters", to submit Bids to potentially enter into Contracts with County to provide Program services for APS Clients. ARFs provide 24-hour non-medical care for eligible dependent adults ages 18 to 59. RCF-Es provide 24-hour non-medical care to eligible clients 60 years of age and over but also persons under 60 with compatible needs of an eligible dependent adult. Bidder(s) that wish to submit a Bid for Program services must be licensed by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) and have the demonstrated experience specified herein providing Program services.

County shall evaluate all Bids submitted and make recommendations to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) to enter into Contracts with qualified Bidders from the five (5) County Supervisorial Districts. Funding for the Program services is limited. The number of Contracts and the funding award amount a Successful Bidder(s) may receive shall be at the sole discretion of County based on available funding and the needs of County.

1.1.1 Overview of the APS Emergency Shelter Program

- 1.1.1.1 The primary purpose of the Program is to provide Emergency Shelter for Clients who reside in Los Angeles County and have immediate necessity for shelter, 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week. Clients referred to Emergency Shelters are abused elders and dependent adults who need to be moved from their homes (or location) to a temporary safe environment until the dangers at home can be resolved. Referrals to Emergency Shelters are made by APS Social Workers.

Emergency Shelter services include, but are not limited to:

- Shelter
- Meals
- Clothing
- Transportation
- Dispensing of Medication (if necessary)

As mandated by the California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 15763(a), County is required to establish provisions for Emergency Shelter or in-home protection to guarantee a safe place for Clients, until the dangers at home or location can be resolved. Bidders(s) who wish to submit a bid must be licensed by the CDSS, CCLD. For more information regarding licensing requirements, please visit the CCLD website at <http://www.cclld.ca.gov/PG3190.htm>.

The Program is not intended to be a long-term, on-going "case management" activity; however, Bidders(s) shall demonstrate the ability to provide the following additional requirements:

- Maintenance of a written emergency plan in case of fire, earthquake, flood or extreme heat;
- Compliance with all Adults with Disability Act (ADA) regulations, including ensuring that all Clients have full mobility and that there are no physical impediments throughout the shelter;
- Compliance with the regulations in Title 22, Division 6, Chapter 1, of the CCLD, "General Licensing Requirements", policy and procedures manual, <http://www.cclld.ca.gov/res/pdf/GeneralLicensing.pdf> ;
- Compliance with the regulations in Title 22, Division 6, Chapter 6 of the CCLD, "Adult Residential Facilities", policy and procedures manual, <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/ord/entres/getinfo/pdf/arfpdf> ;
- Compliance with the regulations in Title 22, Division 6, Chapter 8 of the CCLD, "Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly, policy and procedures manual, <http://www.cclld.ca.gov/res/pdf/RCFE.pdf>
- Written procedures to protect the confidentiality and privacy of all Clients in accordance with County policy as well as all applicable State and federal requirements;

- Transportation for Clients as needed to access medical assistance in emergency situations;
- Ability to provide three (3) meals per day that meet the Clients' dietary needs.

1.1.2 Funding

It is estimated that approximately \$300,000 will be available per year to fund the APS Emergency Shelter Program within Los Angeles County. The Program is funded by the State of California Department of Social Services General Fund.

1.2 Overview of Solicitation Document

This Invitation for Bids (IFB) is composed of the following parts:

- **GENERAL INFORMATION:** Specifies the Bidder's minimum requirements, provides information regarding some of the requirements of the Contract and explains the solicitation process.
- **INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS:** Contains instructions to Bidders in how to prepare and submit their Bid.
- **BID REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS:** Explains how the Bids will be reviewed and selected.
- **APPENDICES:**
 - **A - SAMPLE CONTRACT:** Lists the terms and conditions in the Contract.
 - **B - STATEMENT OF WORK:** Explains in detail the scope of services to be performed in the Contract.
 - **C - SOW EXHIBITS:** Exhibits that accompany the Statement of Work.
 - **D - REQUIRED FORMS:** Forms contained in this section must be completed and included in the Bid.
 - **E - TRANSMITTAL FORM TO REQUEST A SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS REVIEW:** Transmittal sent to department requesting a Solicitation Requirements Review.
 - **F - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES POLICY ON DOING BUSINESS WITH SMALL BUSINESS:** County policy.
 - **G - JURY SERVICE ORDINANCE:** County Program.

- **H - LISTING OF CONTRACTORS DEBARRED IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY:** Contractors who are not allowed to contract with the County for a specific length of time.
- **I - IRS NOTICE 1015:** Provides information on Federal Earned Income credit.
- **J - SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW:** County program.
- **K - BACKGROUND AND RESOURCES: CALIFORNIA CHARITIES REGULATION:** An information sheet intended to assist Nonprofit agencies with compliance with SB 1262 – the Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004 and identify available resources.
- **L - DEFAULTED PROPERTY TAX PROGRAM:** County program.
- **M - APS EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM PLACEMENT AGREEMENT/AUTHORIZATION FORM**

1.3 Terms and Definitions

Throughout this IFB, references are made to certain persons, groups, or departments/agencies. For convenience, a description of specific definitions can be found in Appendix A, Sample Contract, Exhibit J, Definitions.

1.4 Bidder's Minimum Requirements

Each Bidder must meet and provide proof of all of the following criteria:

- 1.4.1 Program staff must be able to read, write, speak, and understand English;
- 1.4.2 Possess a valid and current Emergency Shelter License issued by CCLD of the CDSS;
- 1.4.3 Shall have a CCLD licensed Emergency Shelter located within Los Angeles County;
- 1.4.4 Shall demonstrate that it has the Mandatory Staff and required qualifications as outlined in Section 4.0, Contractor Staff, Appendix B, Statement of Work;
- 1.4.5 Shall demonstrate that it has staff qualified to administer medication to Emergency Shelter Clients as needed;
- 1.4.6 Shall demonstrate that at least one qualified person is available to provide 24 hours a day, 7 days a week response to County staff for Client placement;

- 1.4.7 Must have a minimum of two (2) years' experience providing services to elders and eligible dependent adults in Los Angeles County;
- 1.4.8 Must have the ability to provide emergency transportation to Emergency Shelter Clients, as needed, to access medical assistance in emergency situations;
- 1.4.9 Shall demonstrate the ability to provide notification to County APS Program staff when Clients vacate the Emergency Shelter;
- 1.4.10 Shall demonstrate the ability to provide verbal or written updates on each Client when requested by County APS Program staff;
- 1.4.11 Upon execution of the Contract Bidder shall be required to accept all Clients referred by County APS Social Workers;
- 1.4.12 In addition to all of the building requirements for CCLD licensure, Bidder shall have a written emergency plan in case of fire, earthquake, flood, or extreme heat;
- 1.4.13 Must be in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations to the extent that all Clients shall have full mobility and no physical impediments throughout all residential areas of the Emergency Shelter.
- 1.4.14 Must not have any current open or outstanding County findings and/or suspensions within the past two (2) years.
- 1.4.15 Bidder shall not accept any Repatriation Assistance Program funds concurrently with the APS Emergency Shelter Program grant funds and shall attest to this in writing to the County.
- 1.4.16 Bidder shall provide at least a 25% cash or in-kind match (contribution) of its Maximum Annual Contract Sum.

1.5 County Rights and Responsibilities

County has the right to amend the IFB by written addendum. County is responsible only for that which is expressly stated in the solicitation document and any authorized written addenda thereto. Such addendum shall be made available to each person or organization which County records indicate has received this IFB. Should such addendum require additional information not previously requested, failure to address the requirements of such addendum may result in the Bid not being considered, as determined in the sole discretion of County. County is not responsible for and shall not be bound by any representations otherwise made by any individual acting or purporting to act on its behalf.

1.6 Contract Term

- 1.6.1 The term of the Contract shall be for a period of three (3) years, with the option to extend for up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods. Renewal options shall be at County's sole discretion. The term is conditional on the continuing availability of State funds. Funding during the Contract term shall also be contingent upon the Contractor's performance as specified in the resulting Contract and ongoing community needs.
- 1.6.3 County may close the IFB at any time at the County's sole discretion.
- 1.6.4 The Contract shall commence on July 1, 2014 following Board of Supervisors' award.

1.7 Contract Rates

It is the intent of this IFB to execute Contracts with Emergency Shelters that provide Program services to Clients within the supervisorial district the Bidder(s) are located in, as well as to Clients who reside in any part of Los Angeles County.

Each Contractor shall receive an equal share of the annual APS Emergency Shelter Program funding amount. It is the County's intent to award Contracts not to exceed \$40,000 per Contractor per year, contingent upon available funding. The Contractor's rates shall remain firm and fixed for the term of the Contract for performing the services as set forth in Appendix D, Exhibit 12, Pricing Sheet.

Bids submitted in response to this IFB shall contain a form of bid for contract term. The bids shall be set forth in Appendix D, Exhibit 12, Pricing Sheet, and each shall be fixed and guaranteed for the term of the Contract beginning on the day of commencement of services.

Client bed placement rates and empty bed hold rate cannot exceed the maximum rates set forth in Appendix D, Exhibit 12, Pricing Sheet.

1.8 Days of Operation

The Contractor shall be required to provide Program services 24-hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

1.9 Contact with County Personnel

Any contact regarding this IFB or any matter relating thereto must be in writing and may be mailed or e-mailed as follows:

Daniel Noyola, ASM I
County of Los Angeles
Community and Senior Services
3175 W Sixth Street, Room 403
Los Angeles, CA 90020
E-mail address: APSIFB@CSS.LACOUNTY.GOV

If it is discovered that Bidder contacted and received information from any County personnel, other than the person specified above, regarding this solicitation, County, in its sole determination, may disqualify their bid from further consideration.

1.10 Final Contract Award by the Board of Supervisors

Notwithstanding a recommendation of a department, agency, individual, or other, the Board of Supervisors retains the right to exercise its judgment concerning the selection of a bid and the terms of any resultant agreement, and to determine which bid best serves the interests of the County. The Board is the ultimate decision making body and makes the final determinations necessary to arrive at a decision to award, or not award, a contract.

1.11 Mandatory Requirement to Register on County's WebVen

Prior to contract award, all potential Contractors must register in the County's WebVen. The WebVen contains the Bidder's business profile and identifies the goods/services the business provides. Registration can be accomplished online via the Internet by accessing the County's home page at http://lacounty.info/doing_business/main_db.htm

1.12 County Option to Reject Bids

The County may, at its sole discretion, reject any or all Bids submitted in response to this solicitation. The County shall not be liable for any costs incurred by a Bidder in connection with the preparation and submission of any Bid. The County reserves the right to waive inconsequential disparities in a submitted Bid.

1.13 Protest Process

1.13.1 Under Board Policy No. 5.055 (Services Contract Solicitation Protest), any prospective Bidder may request a review of the requirements under a solicitation for a Board-approved services contract, as

described in Section 1.13.3 below. Additionally, any actual Bidder may request a review of a disqualification or of a proposed contract award under such solicitation as described respectively in the Section below. It is the responsibility of the Bidder challenging the decision of a County department that it committed a sufficiently material error in the solicitation process to justify invalidation of a proposed contract award.

1.13.2 Throughout the review process, the County has no obligation to delay or otherwise postpone an award of contract based on a Bidder protest. In all cases, the County reserves the right to make an award when it is determined to be in the best interest of the County of Los Angeles to do so.

1.13.3 Grounds for Review

Unless state or federal statutes or regulations otherwise provide, the grounds for review of any Departmental determination or action should be limited to the following:

- Review of Solicitation Requirements (Reference Sub-paragraph 2.4 in the Instructions to Bidders Section)
- Review of a Disqualified Bid (Reference Sub-paragraph 3.3 in the Bid Review and Selection Section)
- Review of Department's Proposed Contractor Selection (Reference Sub-paragraph 3.5 in the Bid Review and Selection Section)

1.14 Notice to Bidders Regarding the Public Records Act

1.14.1 Responses to this solicitation shall become the exclusive property of County. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the recommended Bidder's proposal will become a matter of public record when (1) contract negotiations are complete; (2) County receives a letter from the recommended Bidder's authorized officer that the negotiated contract is the firm offer of the recommended Bidder; and (3) County releases a copy of the recommended Bidder's proposal in response to a Notice of Intent to Request a Proposed Contractor Selection under Board Policy No. 5.055.

Notwithstanding the above, absent extraordinary circumstances, all proposals will become a matter of public record when the County's Bidder recommendation appears on the Board agenda.

Exceptions to disclosure are those parts or portions of all proposals that are justifiably defined as business or trade secrets, and plainly

marked by the Bidder as "Trade Secret," "Confidential," or "Proprietary."

- 1.14.2 County shall not, in any way, be liable or responsible for the disclosure of any such record or any parts thereof, if disclosure is required or permitted under the California Public Records Act or otherwise by law. **A blanket statement of confidentiality or the marking of each page of the proposal as confidential shall not be deemed sufficient notice of exception. The Bidders must specifically label only those provisions of their respective bid which are "Trade Secrets," "Confidential," or "Proprietary" in nature.**

1.15 Indemnification and Insurance

Contractor shall be required to comply with the indemnification provisions contained in Appendix A, Sample Contract, Sub-paragraph 8.23. The Contractor shall procure, maintain, and provide to the County proof of insurance coverage for all the programs of insurance along with associated amounts specified in Appendix A, Sample Contract, Sub-paragraphs 8.24 and 8.25.

1.16 SPARTA Program

A County program, known as 'SPARTA' (Service Providers, Artisan and Tradesman Activities) may be able to assist potential Contractors in obtaining affordable liability insurance. The SPARTA Program is administered by the County's insurance broker, Merriwether & Williams. For additional information, Bidders may call Merriwether & Williams toll free at (800) 420-0555 or can access their website directly at www.2sparta.com

1.17 Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)

Contractor shall be required to comply with the State of California's Cal OSHA's regulations. Section 3203 of Title 8 in the California Code of Regulations requires all California employers to have a written, effective Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) that addresses hazards pertaining to the particular workplace covered by the program.

1.18 Background and Security Investigations

Background and security investigations of Contractor's staff may be required at the discretion of County as a condition of beginning and continuing work under any resulting contract. The cost of background checks is the responsibility of the Bidder.

1.19 Confidentiality and Independent Contractor Status

As appropriate, Contractor shall be required to comply with the Confidentiality provision contained in Sub-paragraph 7.5 and the Independent Contractor Status provision contained in Sub-paragraph 8.22 in Appendix A, Sample Contract.

1.20 Conflict of Interest

No County employee whose position in the County enables him/her to influence the selection of a Contractor for this IFB, or any competing IFB, nor any spouse of economic dependent of such employees, shall be employed in any capacity by a Bidder or have any other direct or indirect financial interest in the selection of a Contractor. Bidder shall certify that he/she is aware of and has read Section 2.180.010 of the Los Angeles County Code as stated in Appendix D - Required Forms Exhibit 5, Certification of No Conflict of Interest.

1.21 Determination of Bidder Responsibility

- 1.21.1 A responsible Bidder is a Bidder who has demonstrated the attribute of trustworthiness, as well as quality, fitness, capacity and experience to satisfactorily perform the contract. It is the County's policy to conduct business only with responsible Bidders.
- 1.21.2 Bidders are hereby notified that, in accordance with Chapter 2.202 of the County Code, the County may determine whether the Bidder is responsible based on a review of the Bidder's performance on any contracts, including but not limited to County contracts. Particular attention will be given to violations of labor laws related to employee compensation and benefits, and evidence of false claims made by the Bidder against public entities. Labor law violations which are the fault of the subcontractors and of which the Bidder had no knowledge shall not be the basis of a determination that the Bidder is not responsible.
- 1.21.3 The County may declare a Bidder to be non-responsible for purposes of this contract if the Board of Supervisors, in its discretion, finds that the Bidder has done any of the following: (1) violated a term of a contract with the County or a nonprofit corporation created by the County; (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the Bidder's quality, fitness or capacity to perform a contract with the County, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same; (3) committed an act or omission which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty; or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the County or any other public entity.
- 1.21.4 If there is evidence that the apparent highest ranked Bidder may not be

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responsible, the Department shall notify the Bidder in writing of the evidence relating to the Bidder's responsibility, and its intention to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that the Bidder be found not responsible. The Department shall provide the Bidder and/or the Bidder's representative with an opportunity to present evidence as to why the Bidder should be found to be responsible and to rebut evidence which is the basis for the Department's recommendation.

- 1.21.5 If the Bidder presents evidence in rebuttal to the Department, the Department shall evaluate the merits of such evidence, and based on that evaluation, make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The final decision concerning the responsibility of the Bidder shall reside with the Board of Supervisors.
- 1.21.6 These terms shall also apply to proposed subcontractors of Bidders on County contracts.

1.22 Bidder Debarment

- 1.22.1 The Bidder is hereby notified that, in accordance with Chapter 2.202 of the County Code, the County may debar the Bidder from bidding or proposing on, or being awarded, and/or performing work on other County contracts for a specified period of time, which generally will not exceed five (5) years but may exceed five (5) years or be permanent if warranted by the circumstances, and the County may terminate any or all of the Bidder's existing contracts with County, if the Board of Supervisors finds, in its discretion, that the Bidder has done any of the following: (1) violated a term of a contract with the County or a nonprofit corporation created by the County; (2) committed an act or omission which negatively reflects on the Bidder's quality, fitness or capacity to perform a contract with the County, any other public entity, or a nonprofit corporation created by the County, or engaged in a pattern or practice which negatively reflects on same; (3) committed an act or offense which indicates a lack of business integrity or business honesty; or (4) made or submitted a false claim against the County or any other public entity.
- 1.22.2 If there is evidence that the apparent highest ranked Bidder may be subject to debarment, the Department shall notify the Bidder in writing of the evidence which is the basis for the proposed debarment, and shall advise the Bidder of the scheduled date for a debarment hearing before the Contractor Hearing Board.
- 1.22.3 The Contractor Hearing Board shall conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed debarment is presented. The Bidder and/or Bidder's representative shall be given an opportunity to submit evidence at that hearing. After the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall prepare

- a tentative proposed decision, which shall contain a recommendation regarding whether the Bidder should be debarred, and, if so, the appropriate length of time of the debarment. The Bidder and the Department shall be provided an opportunity to object to the tentative proposed decision prior to its presentation to the Board of Supervisors.
- 1.22.4 After consideration of any objections, or if no objections are received, a record of the hearing, the proposed decision and any other recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board shall be presented to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.
- 1.22.5 If a Bidder has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years, that Bidder may, after the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years, submit a written request for review of the debarment determination to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The County may, in its discretion, reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment if it finds that the Bidder has adequately demonstrated one or more of the following: (1) elimination of the grounds for which the debarment was imposed; (2) a bona fide change in ownership or management; (3) material evidence discovered after debarment was imposed; or (4) any other reason that is in the best interests of the County.
- 1.22.6 The Contractor Hearing Board will consider requests for review of a debarment determination only where (1) the Bidder has been debarred for a period longer than five (5) years; (2) the debarment has been in effect for at least five (5) years; and (3) the request is in writing, states one or more of the grounds for reduction of the debarment period or termination of the debarment, and includes supporting documentation. Upon receiving an appropriate request, the Contractor Hearing Board will provide notice of the hearing on the request. At the hearing, the Contractor Hearing Board shall conduct a hearing where evidence on the proposed reduction of debarment period or termination of debarment is presented. This hearing shall be conducted and the request for review decided by the Contractor Hearing Board pursuant to the same procedures as for a debarment hearing.
- 1.22.7 The Contractor Hearing Board's proposed decision shall contain a recommendation on the request to reduce the period of debarment or terminate the debarment. The Contractor Hearing Board shall present its proposed decision and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall have the right to modify, deny, or adopt the proposed decision and recommendation of the Contractor Hearing Board.

1.22.8 These terms shall also apply to proposed subcontractors of Bidders on County contracts.

1.22.9 Appendix H provides a link to the County's website where there is a listing of Contractors that are currently on the Debarment List for Los Angeles County.

1.23 Bidder's Adherence to County Child Support Compliance Program

Bidders shall 1) fully comply with all applicable State and Federal reporting requirements relating to employment reporting for its employees; and 2) comply with all lawfully served Wage and Earnings Assignment Orders and Notice of Assignment and continue to maintain compliance during the term of any contract that may be awarded pursuant to this solicitation. Failure to comply may be cause for termination of a contract or initiation of debarment proceedings against the non-compliant Contractor (County Code Chapter 2.202).

1.24 Gratuities

1.24.1 Attempt to Secure Favorable Treatment

It is improper for any County officer, employee or agent to solicit consideration, in any form, from a Bidder with the implication, suggestion or statement that the Bidder's provision of the consideration may secure more favorable treatment for the Bidder in the award of a Contract or that the Bidder's failure to provide such consideration may negatively affect the County's consideration of the Bidder's submission. A Bidder shall not offer or give either directly or through an intermediary, consideration, in any form, to a County officer, employee or agent for the purpose of securing favorable treatment with respect to the award of a Contract.

1.24.2 Bidder Notification to County

A Bidder shall immediately report any attempt by a County officer, employee or agent to solicit such improper consideration. The report shall be made either to the County manager charged with the supervision of the employee or to the County Auditor-Controller's Employee Fraud Hotline at (800) 544-6861. Failure to report such a solicitation may result in the Bidder's submission being eliminated from consideration.

1.24.3 Form of Improper Consideration

Among other items, such improper consideration may take the form of cash, discounts, service, the provision of travel or entertainment, or tangible gifts.

1.25 Notice to Bidders Regarding the County Lobbyist Ordinance

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles has enacted an ordinance regulating the activities of persons who lobby County officials. This ordinance, referred to as the "Lobbyist Ordinance", defines a County Lobbyist and imposes certain registration requirements upon individuals meeting the definition. The complete text of the ordinance can be found in County Code Chapter 2.160. In effect, each person, corporation or other entity that seeks a County permit, license, franchise or contract must certify compliance with the ordinance. As part of this solicitation process, it will be the responsibility of each Bidder to review the ordinance independently as the text of said ordinance is not contained within this IFB. Thereafter, each person, corporation or other entity submitting a response to this solicitation, must certify that each County Lobbyist, as defined by Los Angeles County Code Section 2.160.010, retained by the Bidder is in full compliance with Chapter 2.160 of the Los Angeles County Code by completing and submitting Familiarity of the County Lobbyist Ordinance Certification, as set forth in Appendix D - Required Forms, Exhibit 6, as part of their Bid.

1.26 Federal Earned Income Credit

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify its employees, that they may be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit under the federal income tax laws. Such notice shall be provided in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Internal Revenue Service Notice No. 1015. Reference Appendix I.

1.27 Consideration of GAIN/GROW Participants for Employment

As a threshold requirement for consideration for contract award, Bidders shall demonstrate a proven record of hiring participants in the County's Department of Public Social Services Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) or General Relief Opportunity for Work (GROW) Programs or shall attest to a willingness to consider GAIN/GROW participants for any future employment openings if the participants meet the minimum qualifications for that opening. Additionally, Bidders shall attest to a willingness to provide employed GAIN/GROW participants access to the Bidder's employee mentoring program, if available, to assist these individuals in obtaining permanent employment and/or promotional opportunities. Bidders who are unable to meet this requirement shall not be considered for contract award. Bidders shall complete and return the form,

Attestation of Willingness to Consider GAIN/GROW Participants, as set forth in Appendix D - Required Forms, Exhibit 9, along with their Bid.

1.28 County's Quality Assurance Plan

After contract award, the County or its agent will evaluate the Contractor's performance under the contract on a periodic basis. Such evaluation will include assessing Contractor's compliance with all terms in the Contract and performance standards identified in the Statement of Work. Contractor's deficiencies which the County determines are severe or continuing and that may jeopardize performance of the Contract will be reported to the County's Board of Supervisors. The report will include improvement/corrective action measures taken by the County and Contractor. If improvement does not occur consistent with the corrective action measures, the County may terminate the Contract in whole or in part, or impose other penalties as specified in the Contract.

1.29 Recycled Bond Paper

Bidder shall be required to comply with the County's policy on recycled bond paper as specified in Appendix A, Sample Contract, Sub-paragraph 8.39.

1.30 Safely Surrendered Baby Law

The Contractor shall notify and provide to its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, a fact sheet regarding the Safely Surrendered Baby Law, its implementation in Los Angeles County, and where and how to safely surrender a baby. The fact sheet is set forth in Appendix J of this solicitation document and is also available on the Internet at www.babysafela.org for printing purposes.

1.31 County Policy on Doing Business with Small Business

1.31.1 The County has multiple programs that address small businesses. The Board of Supervisors encourages small business participation in the County's contracting process by constantly streamlining and simplifying our selection process and expanding opportunities for small businesses to compete for our business.

1.31.2 The Local Small Business Enterprise Preference Program, requires the Company to complete a certification process. This program and how to obtain certification are further explained in Sub-paragraph 1.33 of this Section.

1.31.3 The Jury Service Program provides exceptions to the Program if a company qualifies as a Small Business. It is important to note that each Program has a different definition for Small Business. You may

qualify as a Small Business in one Program but not the other. Further explanation of the Jury Service Program is provided in Sub-paragraph 1.32 of this Section.

- 1.31.4 The County also has a Policy on Doing Business with Small Business that is stated in Appendix F.

1.32 Jury Service Program

The prospective contract is subject to the requirements of the County's Contractor Employee Jury Service Ordinance ("Jury Service Program") (Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203). Prospective Contractors should carefully read the Jury Service Ordinance, Appendix G, and the pertinent jury service provisions of the Sample Contract, Appendix A, Sub-paragraph 8.8, both of which are incorporated by reference into and made a part of this IFB. The Jury Service Program applies to both Contractors and their Subcontractors. Bids that fail to comply with the requirements of the Jury Service Program will be considered non-responsive and excluded from further consideration.

- 1.32.1 The Jury Service Program requires Contractors and their Subcontractors to have and adhere to a written policy that provides that its employees shall receive from the Contractor, on an annual basis, no less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service. The policy may provide that employees deposit any fees received for such jury service with the Contractor or that the Contractor deduct from the employee's regular pay the fees received for jury service. For purposes of the Jury Service Program, "employee" means any California resident who is a full-time employee of a Contractor and "full-time" means 40 hours or more worked per week, or a lesser number of hours if: 1) the lesser number is a recognized industry standard as determined by the County, or 2) the Contractor has a long-standing practice that defines the lesser number of hours as full-time. Therefore, the Jury Service Program applies to all of a Contractor's full-time California employees, even those not working specifically on the County project. Full-time employees providing short-term, temporary services of 90 days or less within a 12-month period are not considered full-time for purposes of the Jury Service Program.
- 1.32.2 There are two ways in which a Contractor might not be subject to the Jury Service Program. The first is if the Contractor does not fall within the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor". The Jury Service Program defines "Contractor" to mean a person, partnership, corporation or other entity which has a contract with the County or a Subcontract with a County Contractor and has received or will receive an aggregate sum of \$50,000 or more in any 12-month period under

one or more County contracts or subcontracts. The second is if the Contractor meets one of the two exceptions to the Jury Service Program. The first exception concerns small businesses and applies to Contractors that have 1) ten or fewer employees; and, 2) annual gross revenues in the preceding twelve months which, if added to the annual amount of this Contract is less than \$500,000, and, 3) is not an "affiliate or subsidiary of a business dominant in its field of operation". The second exception applies to Contractors that possess a collective bargaining agreement that expressly supersedes the provisions of the Jury Service Program. The Contractor is subject to any provision of the Jury Service Program not expressly superseded by the collective bargaining agreement.

- 1.32.3 If a Contractor does not fall within the Jury Service Program's definition of "Contractor" or if it meets any of the exceptions to the Jury Service Program, then the Contractor must so indicate in the Certification Form and Application for Exception, Exhibit 10 in Appendix D - Required Forms, and include with its submission all necessary documentation to support the claim such as tax returns or a collective bargaining agreement, if applicable. Upon reviewing the Contractor's application, the County will determine, in its sole discretion, whether the Contractor falls within the definition of Contractor or meets any of the exceptions to the Jury Service Program. The County's decision will be final.

1.33 Local Small Business Enterprise Preference Program:

- 1.33.1 The County will give Local SBE preference during the solicitation process to businesses that meet the definition of a Local Small Business Enterprise (Local SBE), consistent with Chapter 2.204.030C.1 of the Los Angeles County Code. A Local SBE is defined as: 1) A business certified by the State of California as a small business and 2) has had its principal office located in Los Angeles County for at least one year. The business must be certified by Internal Services Department as meeting the requirements set forth in 1 and 2 above prior to requesting the Local SBE Preference in a solicitation.
- 1.33.2 To apply for certification as a Local SBE, businesses may register at the Internal Services Department's web-site at: <http://laosb.org>
- 1.33.3 Certified Local SBEs must request the SBE Preference in their solicitation responses and may not request the preference unless the certification process has been completed and certification affirmed. Businesses must attach the Local SBE Certification Letter to the Required Form - Request for Local SBE Preference Program Consideration and CBE Firm/Organization Information Form - Exhibit 7

in Appendix D - Required Forms with their proposal. Sanctions and financial penalties may apply to a business that knowingly, and with intent to defraud, seeks to obtain or maintain certification as a certified Local SBE.

- 1.33.4 Information about the State's small business enterprise certification regulations is in the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Subchapter 8, Section 1896 et seq., and is also available on the California Department of General Services Office of Small Business Certification and Resources Web site at <http://www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/smbus/default>.

1.34 Local Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Prompt Payment Program

It is the intent of the County that Certified Local SBEs receive prompt payment for services they provide to County departments. Prompt payment is defined as 15 calendar days after receipt of an undisputed invoice.

1.35 Notification to County of Pending Acquisitions/Mergers by Proposing Company

The Bidder shall notify the County of any pending acquisitions/mergers of their company. This information shall be provided by the Bidder on Required Form - Exhibit 1- Bidder's Organization Questionnaire/Affidavit. Failure of the Bidder to provide this information may eliminate its bid from any further consideration.

1.36 Transitional Job Opportunities Preference Program

- 1.36.1 In reviewing bids, the County will give preference to businesses that are certified by the County as Transitional Job Opportunity vendors, consistent with Chapter 2.205 of the Los Angeles County Code. A Certified Transitional Job Opportunity vendor is, and has been such for three (3) years, an entity: 1) that is a non-profit organization recognized as tax exempt pursuant to section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Services Code; set forth, under penalty of perjury, such information as requested by the County on either electronic or hard copy forms, along with their application form and three most recent annual tax returns to the department with their proposal response to the contracting solicitation for which they are competing; 2) has been in operation for at least one year providing transitional job and the related supportive services to program participants; and 3) provide a profile of their program with a description of their program components designed to assist program participants, number of past program participants, and any other information requested by a contracting department.

- 1.36.2 Transitional Job Opportunities vendors must request the preference in their solicitation response and may not receive the preference until their certification has been affirmed by the applicable department. County must verify the Transitional Job Opportunity vendor certification prior to applying the preference. Sanctions and financial penalties may apply to a Bidder that knowingly and with intent to defraud seeks to obtain or maintain certification as a Transitional Job Opportunities vendor.
- 1.36.3 To request the Transitional Job Opportunities Preference, Bidder must complete the Transitional Job Opportunities Preference Application – Exhibit 14 in Appendix D – Required Forms and submit it along with all supporting documentation with their proposal.

1.37 Business Associate Agreement Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA")

Contractor shall be required to comply with the Administrative Simplification requirements of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) as in effect and as may be amended, as specified in Appendix A, Sample Contract, Sub-paragraph 9.4.

1.38 Bidder's Charitable Contributions Compliance

- 1.38.1 California's "Supervision of Trustees and Fundraisers for Charitable Purposes Act" regulates receiving and raising charitable contributions. Among other requirements, those subject to the Charitable Purposes Act must register. The 2004 Nonprofit Integrity Act (SB 1262, Chapter 919) increased Charitable Purposes Act requirements. Prospective contractors should carefully read the Background and Resources: California Charities Regulations, Appendix K. New rules cover California public benefit corporations, unincorporated associations, and trustee entities and may include similar foreign corporations doing business or holding property in California. Key Nonprofit Integrity Act requirements affect executive compensation, fund-raising practices and documentation. Charities with over \$2 million of revenues (excluding funds that must be accounted for to a governmental entity) have new audit requirements.
- 1.38.2 All prospective contractors must determine if they receive or raise charitable contributions which subject them to the Charitable Purposes Act and complete the Charitable Contributions Certification, Exhibit 11 as set forth in Appendix D - Required Forms. A completed Exhibit 11 is a required part of any agreement with the County.
- 1.38.3 In Exhibit 11, prospective contractors certify either that:

- they have determined that they do not now receive or raise charitable contributions regulated under the California Charitable Purposes Act, (including the Nonprofit Integrity Act) but will comply if they become subject to coverage of those laws during the term of a County agreement, **OR**
- they are currently complying with their obligations under the Charitable Purposes Act, attaching a copy of their most recent filing with the Registry of Charitable Trusts.

1.38.4 Prospective County contractors that do not complete Exhibit 11 as part of the solicitation process may, in the County's sole discretion, be disqualified from contract award. A County contractor that fails to comply with its obligations under the Charitable Purposes Act is subject to either contract termination or debarment proceedings or both. (County Code Chapter 2.202)

1.39 Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program

The prospective contract is subject to the requirements of the County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program ("Defaulted Tax Program") (Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206). Prospective Contractors should carefully read the Defaulted Tax Program Ordinance, Appendix L, and the pertinent provisions of the Sample Contract, Appendix A, Sub-paragraph 8.51 and 8.52, both of which are incorporated by reference into and made a part of this solicitation. The Defaulted Tax Program applies to both Contractors and their Subcontractors.

Bidders shall be required to certify that they are in full compliance with the provisions of the Defaulted Tax Program and shall maintain compliance during the term of any contract that may be awarded pursuant to this solicitation or shall certify that they are exempt from the Defaulted Tax Program by completing Certification of Compliance with The County's Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program, Exhibit 15 in Appendix D – Required Forms. Failure to maintain compliance, or to timely cure defects, may be cause for termination of a contract or initiation of debarment proceedings against the non-compliance contractor (Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202).

Bids that fail to comply with the certification requirements of the Defaulted Tax Program will be considered non-responsive and excluded from further consideration.

1.40 Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference Program

1.40.1 The County will give preference during the solicitation process to businesses that meet the definition of a Disabled Veteran Business

Enterprise, consistent with Chapter 2.211 of the Los Angeles County Code. A Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise vendor is defined as:

- 1) A business which is certified by the State of California as a Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise; or
 - 2) A business which is certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs as a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB).
- 1.40.2 Certified Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise vendors must request the preference in their solicitation responses and may not request the preference unless the certification process has been completed and certification is affirmed.
- 1.40.3 In no case shall the Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference Program price or scoring preference be combined with any other county preference program to exceed eight percent (8%) in response to any county solicitation.
- 1.40.4 Sanctions and financial penalties may apply to a business that knowingly, and with intent to defraud, seeks to obtain or maintain certification as a certified Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise.
- 1.40.5 To request the Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference, Bidder must complete and submit the Request for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Consideration form in Appendix D, Required Forms, Exhibit 16, with supporting documentation with their proposal.

Information about the State's DVBE certification regulations is found in the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Subchapter 8, Section 1896 et seq., and is also available on the California Department of General Services Office of Disabled Veteran Business Certification and Resources Website at <http://www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/>

Information on the Department of Veteran Affairs SDVOSB certification regulations is found in the Code of Federal Regulations, 38CFR 74 and is also available on the Department of Veterans Affairs Website at: <http://www.vetbiz.gov/>

1.41 Time Off for Voting

The Contractor shall notify its employees, and shall require each subcontractor to notify and provide to its employees, information regarding the time off for voting law (Elections Code Section 14000). Not less than 10 days before every statewide election, every Contractor and subcontractors shall keep posted conspicuously at the place of work, if practicable, or elsewhere where it can be

seen as employees come or go to their place of work, a notice setting forth the provisions of Section 14000.

2.0 INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

This Section contains key project dates and activities as well as instructions to Bidders in how to prepare and submit their Bid.

2.1 County Responsibility

The County is not responsible for representations made by any of its officers or employees prior to the execution of the Contract unless such understanding or representation is included in the Contract.

2.2 Truth and Accuracy of Representations

False, misleading, incomplete, or deceptively unresponsive statements in connection with a Bid shall be sufficient cause for rejection of the Bid. The evaluation and determination in this area shall be at the Director's sole judgment and his/her judgment shall be final.

2.3 IFB Timetable

The timetable for this IFB is as follows:

- Release of IFB.....Wednesday, 02/19/14
- Request for a Solicitation Requirements Review Due.....Wednesday, 03/05/14
- Written Questions Due(Pacific Time) 12:00 pm, Wednesday, 03/05/14
- Bidders Conference(Pacific Time) 9:00 am, Friday, 02/28/14
- Questions and Answers Released.....(on or around) Friday, 03/07/14
- **Bid due by**..... (Pacific Time) 5:00 pm, Tuesday, 03/11/14

2.4 Solicitation Requirements Review

A person or entity may seek a Solicitation Requirements Review by submitting Appendix E - Transmittal Form to Request a Solicitation Requirements Review to the Department conducting the solicitation as described in this Section. A request for a Solicitation Requirements Review may be denied, in the Department's sole discretion, if the request does not satisfy all of the following criteria:

1. The request for a Solicitation Requirements Review is made within ten (10) business days of the issuance of the solicitation document.
2. The request for a Solicitation Requirements Review includes

documentation, which demonstrates the underlying ability of the person or entity to submit a proposal.

3. The request for a Solicitation Requirements Review itemizes in appropriate detail, each matter contested and factual reasons for the requested review; and
4. The request for a Solicitation Requirements Review asserts either that:
 - a. application of the minimum requirements, evaluation criteria and/or business requirements unfairly disadvantages the person or entity; or,
 - b. due to unclear instructions, the process may result in the County not receiving the best possible responses from prospective Vendor.

The Solicitation Requirements Review shall be completed and the Department's determination shall be provided to the requesting person or entity, in writing, within a reasonable time prior to the proposal due date.

2.5 Bidders' Questions

Bidders may submit written questions regarding this IFB by mail or e-mail to the Contract Analyst identified below. All questions must be received by 12:00 pm (Pacific Time) on Wednesday, 03/05/14. All questions, without identifying the submitting company, will be compiled with the appropriate answers and issued as an addendum to the IFB.

When submitting questions, please specify the IFB section number, paragraph number, and page number and quote the passage that prompted the question. This will ensure that the question can be quickly found in the IFB. County reserves the right to group similar questions when providing answers.

Questions may address concerns that the application of minimum requirements, review criteria and/or business requirements would unfairly disadvantage Bidders or, due to unclear instructions, may result in County not receiving the best possible responses from Bidder.

Questions should be addressed to:

Daniel Noyola, ASM I
County of Los Angeles
Community and Senior Services
3175 W Sixth Street, Room 403
Los Angeles, CA 90020
E-mail address: APSIFB@CSS.LACOUNTY.GOV

2.6 Bidders' Conference

A Bidders Conference will be held to discuss the IFB. County staff will respond to questions from potential Bidders. The conference is scheduled as follows:

Friday, 02/28/14
9:00 am (Pacific Time)
3175 W. 6th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90020
Room 105

2.7 Preparation of the Bid

All Bids must be submitted in a three-ring binder using the forms and format prescribed below. Any Bid that deviates from this format may be rejected without review at County's sole discretion.

2.8 Bid Format

The content and sequence of the Bid must be as follows:

- Table of Contents
- Pricing Sheet(s) with Budget (Section A)
- Bidder's Qualifications (Section B)
- Required Forms (Section C)
- Proof of Insurability (Section D)
- Proof of Licenses (Section E)

2.8.1 Table of Contents

The Table of Contents must be a comprehensive listing of material included in the Bid. This section must include a clear definition of the material, identified by sequential page numbers and by section reference numbers.

2.8.2 Pricing Sheet(s) (Section A)

Complete and submit the following forms as provided in Appendix D – Required Forms:

- Pricing Sheet(s) with Budget – Exhibit 12
- Certification of Independent Price Determination and Acknowledgement of IFB Restrictions – Exhibit 13

2.8.3 Bidder's Qualifications (Section B)

Demonstrate that the Bidder's organization has the experience to perform the required services. The following sections must be included:

A. Bidder's Background and Experience (Section B.1)

The Bidder shall complete, sign and date the Bidder's Organization Questionnaire/Affidavit – Exhibit 1 as set forth in Appendix D. **The person signing the form must be authorized to sign on behalf of the Bidder and to bind the applicant in a Contract.**

Provide a summary of relevant background information to demonstrate that the Bidder meets the minimum requirements stated in Sub-paragraph 1.4 of this IFB and has the capability to perform the required services as a corporation or other entity.

Taking into account the structure of the Bidder's organization, Bidder shall determine which of the below referenced supporting documents the County requires. If the Bidder's organization does not fit into one of these categories, upon receipt of the Bid or at some later time, the County may, in its discretion, request additional documentation regarding the Bidder's business organization and authority of individuals to sign Contracts.

If the below referenced documents are not available at the time of Bid submission, Bidders must request the appropriate documents from the California Secretary of State and provide a statement on the status of the request.

Required Support Documents:

Corporations or Limited Liability Company (LLC):

The Bidder must submit the following documentation with the Bid:

- 1) A copy of a "Certificate of Good Standing" with the state of incorporation/organization.
- 2) A conformed copy of the most recent "Statement of Information" as filed with the California Secretary of State listing corporate officers or members and managers.

Limited Partnership:

The Bidder must submit a conformed copy of the Certificate of Limited Partnership or Application for Registration of Foreign

Limited Partnership as filed with the California Secretary of State, and any amendments.

B. Bidder's References (Section B.2)

It is the Bidder's sole responsibility to ensure that the firm's name, and point of contact's name, title and phone number for each reference is accurate. The same references may be listed on both forms – Exhibits 2 and 3.

County may disqualify a Bidder if:

- references fail to substantiate Bidder's description of the services provided; or
- references fail to support that Bidder has a continuing pattern of providing capable, productive and skilled personnel, or
- the Department is unable to reach the point of contact with reasonable effort. It is the Bidder's responsibility to inform the point of contact of normal working hours.

The Bidder must complete and include Required Forms, Exhibits 2, 3 and 4 as set forth in Appendix D.

a. Prospective Contractor References, Exhibit 2

Bidder must provide (3) three references where the same or similar scope of services was provided.

b. Prospective Contractor List of Contracts, Exhibit 3

The listing must include all Public Entities contracts for the last three (3) years. Use additional sheets if necessary.

c. Prospective Contractor List of Terminated Contracts, Exhibit 4

Listing must include contracts terminated within the past three (3) years with a reason for termination.

C. Bidder's Pending Litigation and Judgments (Section B.3)

Identify by name, case and court jurisdiction any pending litigation in which Bidder is involved, or judgments against Bidder in the past five (5) years. Provide a statement describing the size and scope of any pending or threatening litigation against the Bidder or principals of the Bidder.

2.8.4 Required Forms (Section C)

Include the following business forms as provided in Appendix D – Required Forms. Complete, sign and date all forms.

- Exhibit 1 Bidder's Organization Questionnaire/Affidavit
- Exhibit 2 Prospective Contractor References
- Exhibit 3 Prospective Contractor List of Contracts
- Exhibit 4 Prospective Contractor List of Terminated Contracts
- Exhibit 5 Certification of No Conflict of Interest
- Exhibit 6 Familiarity with the County Lobbyist Ordinance Certification
- Exhibit 7 Request for Local SBE Preference Program Consideration and CBE Firm/Organization Information
- Exhibit 8 Bidder's EEO Certification
- Exhibit 9 Attestation of Willingness to Consider GAIN/GROW Participants
- Exhibit 10 Contractor Employee Jury Service Program - Certification Form and Application for Exception
- Exhibit 11 Charitable Contributions Certification
- Exhibit 12 Pricing Sheet and Budget
- Exhibit 13 Certification of Independent Price Determination and Acknowledged of IFB Restrictions
- Exhibit 14 Transitional Job Opportunities Preference Program
- Exhibit 15 Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program
- Exhibit 16 Request for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference Program Consideration

2.8.5 Proof of Insurability (Section D)

Bidder must provide proof of insurability that meets all insurance requirements set forth in the Appendix A – Sample Contract, Sub-paragraphs 8.24 and 8.25. If a Bidder does not currently have the required coverage, a letter from a qualified insurance carrier indicating a willingness to provide the required coverage should the Bidder be awarded a Contract may be submitted with the Bid.

2.8.6 Proof of Licenses (Section E)

Bidder must provide proof that it is licensed by the California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, to provide Emergency Shelter services.

2.9 Bid Submission

The original Bid and three (3) numbered copies shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope, plainly marked in the upper left-hand corner with the name and address of the Bidder and bear the words:

“BID FOR APS EMERGENCY SHELTER PROGRAM SERVICES”

The Bid and any related information shall be delivered or mailed to:

Carol Domingo, Program Manager
County of Los Angeles
Community and Senior Services
3175 W Sixth Street, Room 403
Los Angeles, CA 90020

It is the sole responsibility of the submitting Bidder to ensure that its Bid is received before the submission deadline. Submitting Bidders shall bear all risks associated with delays in delivery by any person or entity, including the U.S. Mail. Any Bids received after the scheduled closing date and time for receipt of Bids, as listed in Sub-paragraph 2.3, IFB Timetable, will not be accepted and returned to the sender unopened. Timely hand-delivered Bids are acceptable. No facsimile (fax) or electronic mail (e-mail) copies will be accepted.

All Bids shall be firm offers and may not be withdrawn for a period of two hundred and seventy (270) days following the last day to submit bids.

Until the bid submission deadline, errors in bids may be corrected by a request in writing to withdraw the bid and by submission of another set of bids with the mistakes corrected. Corrections will not be accepted once the deadline for submission of bids has passed.

3.0 BID REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

3.1 Review Process

3.1.1 Bids will be examined to determine the lowest price. Should one or more of the Bidders request and be granted the Local SBE Preference, Transitional Job Opportunities Preference, or Disabled Veterans

Business Enterprise Preference, the lowest bid price will be determined as follows:

Local SBE Preference: Eight percent (8%) of the lowest bid price submitted will be calculated, which shall not exceed \$50,000, and that amount will be deducted from the Bid price submitted by all Local SBE Bidders who requested and were granted the Local SBE Preference.

Transitional Job Opportunities Preference: Eight percent (8%) of the lowest bid price submitted will be calculated, and that amount will be deducted from the Bid price submitted by all Bidders who requested and were granted the Transitional Job Opportunities Preference.

Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference: Eight percent (8%) of the lowest bid price submitted will be calculated and that amount will be deducted from the bid price submitted by all Bidders who requested and were granted the Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Preference up to the maximum of \$50,000.

In no case shall any Preference be combined to exceed eight percent (8%) in response to any County solicitation.

- 3.1.2 The lowest price bid will be reviewed to determine whether it is responsive and responsible. The following steps will be performed until it is determine which is the lowest price, and most responsive and responsible bid.

3.2 Adherence to Minimum Requirements

County shall review the Bidder's Organization Questionnaire/Affidavit – Exhibit 1 of Appendix D, Required Forms, and determine if the Bidder meets the minimum requirements as outlined in Sub-paragraph 1.4 of this IFB.

Failure of the Bidder to comply with the minimum requirements may eliminate its bid from any further consideration. The County may elect to waive any informality in a bid if the sum and substance of the bid is present.

3.3 Disqualification Review

A bid may be disqualified from consideration because a Department determined it was a non-responsive bid at any time during the review/evaluation process. If a Department determines that a Bid was disqualified due to non-responsiveness, the Department shall notify the Bidder in writing.

Upon receipt of the written determination of non-responsiveness, the Bidder may submit a written request for a Disqualification Review within the timeframe

specified in the written determination.

A request for a Disqualification Review may, in the Department's sole discretion, be denied if the request does not satisfy all of the following criteria:

1. The person or entity requesting a Disqualification Review is a Bidder;
2. The request for a Disqualification Review is submitted timely (i.e., by the date and time specified in the written determination); and
3. The request for a Disqualification Review asserts that the Department's determination of disqualification due to non-responsiveness was erroneous (e.g. factual errors, etc.) and provides factual support on each ground asserted as well as copies of all documents and other material that support the assertions.

The Disqualification Review shall be completed and the determination shall be provided to the requesting Bidder, in writing, prior to the conclusion of the evaluation process.

3.4 Bid Review

3.4.1 Bidder's Qualifications (Section B)

1. Bidder will be evaluated on their experience and capacity as a corporation or other entity to perform the required services based on information provided in Section B.1 of the proposal.
2. Bidder will be evaluated on the verification of references provided in Section B2 of the proposal. In addition to the references provided, a review will include the County's Contract Database and Contractor Alert Reporting Database, if applicable, reflecting past performance history on County or other contracts. This review may result in point deductions up to 100% of the total points awarded in this evaluation category. Additionally, a review of terminated contracts will be conducted which may result in point deductions.
3. A review will be conducted to determine the significance of any litigation or judgments pending against the Bidder as provided in Section B3 of the proposal.

3.4.2 Required Forms (Section C)

All forms listed in Section 2, Sub-paragraph 2.8.4 must be included in **Section C** of the Bid.

3.4.3 Proof of Insurability (Section D)

Review the proof of insurability provided in **Section D** of the Bid.

3.4.4 Proof of Licenses (Section E)

Review the proof of CCLD licensure requirement provided in **Section E** of the bid.

3.5 Department's Proposed Contractor Selection Review

3.5.1 Proposed Contractor Selection Review

Any Bidder that has timely submitted a notice of its intent to request a Proposed Contractor Selection Review (as described in this Sub-paragraph, may submit a written request for a Proposed Contractor Selection Review, in the manner and timeframe as shall be specified by the department.

A request for a Proposed Contractor Selection Review may, in the department's sole discretion, be denied if the request does not satisfy all of the following criteria:

1. The person or entity requesting a Proposed Contractor Selection Review is a bidder/Bidder;
2. The request for a Proposed Contractor Selection Review is submitted timely (i.e., by the date and time specified by the department);
3. The person or entity requesting a Proposed Contractor Selection Review asserts in appropriate detail with factual reasons one or more of the following grounds for review:
 - a. The department materially failed to follow procedures specified in its solicitation document. This includes:
 - i. Failure to correctly apply the standards for reviewing the bid format requirements.
 - ii. Failure to correctly apply the standards, and/or follow the prescribed methods, for evaluating the bids as specified in the solicitation document.
 - iii. Use of evaluation criteria that were different from the evaluation criteria disclosed in the solicitation document.
 - b. The department made identifiable mathematical or other errors in evaluating bids, resulting in the Bidder receiving an incorrect score and not being selected as the recommended contractor.
 - c. Another basis for review as provided by state or federal law; and

4. The request for a Proposed Contractor Selection Review sets forth sufficient detail to demonstrate that, but for the department's alleged failure, the Bidder would have been the lowest cost, responsive and responsible bid or the highest-scored proposal, as the case may be.

Upon completing the Proposed Contractor Selection Review, the department representative shall issue a written decision to the Bidder within a reasonable time following receipt of the request for a Proposed Contractor Selection Review, and always before the date the contract award recommendation is to be heard by the Board. The written decision shall additionally instruct the Bidder of the manner and timeframe for requesting a County Independent Review (see Section 3.5.2 below).

3.5.2 County Independent Review Process

Any Bidder that is not satisfied with the results of the Proposed Contractor Selection Review may submit a written request for a County Independent Review in the manner and timeframe specified by the Department in the Department's written decision regarding the Proposed Contractor Selection Review.

The request for a County Independent Review may, in the County's sole discretion, be denied if the request does not satisfy all of the following criteria:

1. The person or entity requesting the County Independent Review is a Bidder;
2. The request for a County Independent Review is submitted timely (i.e., by the date and time specified by the Department); and
3. The person or entity requesting the County Independent Review has limited the request to items raised in the Proposed Contractor Selection Review and new items that (a) arise from the Department's written decision and (b) are on of the appropriate grounds for requesting a Proposed Contractor Selection Review as listed in Section 3.5.2 above.

Upon completion of the County Independent Review, ISD will forward the report to the Department, which will provide a copy to the Bidder.